UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/13
10 January 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 10 JANUARY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

With reference to my letter dated 3 January 1996 (S/1996/3), I have the honour, on behalf of my Government, to inform you of the following.

The Republic of Croatia, being cognizant that the overall peace process in the former Yugoslavia is at a delicate stage and being fully determined to contribute to peace and stability in the region, would support a continued deployment of United Nations military observers in the area of the Prevlaka peninsula in Croatia, with an understanding that such deployment shall be a short-term interim arrangement, until, as proposed by my Government, the United Nations arrangement is replaced by a regional arrangement.

Croatia remains committed to confidence-building measures in the Prevlaka peninsula area, including full demilitarization of the area on both sides of the international border, and to other aspects of preventive diplomacy based on the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) principles. In addition, Croatia supports further negotiations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) on issues such as maritime passage for vessels utilizing the Boka Kotarska harbour in the area.

Finally, we should like to reiterate that my Government cannot accept the claim submitted in the letter by the Yugoslav Prime Minister, Mr. Radoje Kontic (S/1995/1059), that there is a "territorial dispute" between the Republic of Croatia and the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)" in the area of the Prevlaka peninsula in Croatia.

May I request your kind assistance in distributing the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative

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